



Community Assistance in Development
COMAID
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Board Chair, COMAID

Executive Summary 2019 Fiscal Year

COMAID is a Non-Governmental Organization based in Bamenda, the regional headquarter of the North West Region of Cameroon. The goal of COMAID is to improve the standards of living of communities in the urban and rural areas of Cameroon. COMAID works in five specific objective areas to attain its goal namely: Land governance; biodiversity conservation; income generation; GIS/GPS in development and institutional development.

COMAID has recorded major achievements in all her objective areas in 2019 by her continuous interventions and support to local communities amidst the Anglophone crisis plaguing the North West and South West regions of Cameroon. COMAID recorded major achievements thanks to her innovative change of strategy especially as the rural communities of the region were badly hit by the crisis and became insecure. The change of strategy involved the building of capacities of local beneficiaries to carryout project activities themselves and report to COMAID especially in those rural areas where COMAID staff could not reach in 2019.

In the area of **land governance**, COMAID in collaboration with CENDEP completed the project to strengthen advocacy towards women empowerment for access and ownership rights over land. This project which started in 2018 ended with a Land policy forum organized in Limbe that brought together multi stakeholder actors with policy suggestions that favored secured access to land for women in the North West region of Cameroon. A lobbying and advocacy plan was developed for the women on how to carry forward their suggestions to decision makers. Also, COMAID created and strengthened two regional Land Observatories in the South West and South regions to monitor large scale land acquisition in Cameroon. Still in the area of Land governance, COMAID completed the pilot Community Land Protection project in Ngom and Nyurong communities of the Mbaw plain, supported by ILC, NAMATI and IIED. The pilot project developed a land use plan for the two communities and developed community by-laws for accountability and transparency in land and natural resource governance

In the area of **Conservation and biodiversity protection** COMAID continued the partnership with ITF and empowered the Nkor and Dom communities through agroforestry practices for conservation and income generation while restoring water catchments in the two communities. COMAID continued the MBI project in partnership with ERUDEF to enhance landscapes and livelihoods of communities through participatory restoration of the Mount Bamboutous ecosystem

across the West, South West and North West regions of Cameroon. COMAID was chosen as an implementing partner in the communities of Pinyin, Buchi and Menka.

In the area of **Geographic Information System for development**, COMAID provided her technical expertise to local communities and decentralized local institutions in mapping geo-spatial features in participatory mapping, land use planning, and update of the Council development plan of Mbiame Council.

In the area of **Income Generation** and livelihoods, COMAID supported five CIGs and Ndu Effort small tea farmer's cooperative in proposal writing and lobbying for fund raising.

In the area of **Institutional development**, COMAID continued to support Mbiame Council to update their development plan and a five year-strategic development plan in line with the decentralization process of Cameroon. Also COMAID continued partnership with the National Employment Fund to train and equip three volunteers to gain practical experience. 2019 also witnessed international and national training of the COMAID board and staff. In the course of the year, new partnership was sort with Both Ends, IUCN-PPI, and CADASTA